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Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)

Letter dated 16 December 2010 from the Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith the Declaration on cooperation of the States members of the Union of South American Nations with regard to certain movements of vessels travelling to the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia Islands and South Sandwich Islands (see annex), signed by the Heads of State and Government of the States members of the Union at its fourth summit meeting, held in Georgetown on 26 November 2010.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 45 concerning the question of the Malvinas Islands.

(*Signed*) Jorge **Argüello**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 16 December 2010 from the Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Declaration on cooperation of the States members of the Union of South American Nations with regard to certain movements of vessels travelling to the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia Islands and South Sandwich Islands

In accordance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 31/49, which calls upon the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to refrain from taking decisions that would imply introducing unilateral modifications in the situation while the islands are going through the process recommended by the General Assembly, the States members of the Union of South American Nations hereby undertake to adopt, pursuant to international law and their respective domestic legislation, all appropriate regulatory measures to prevent the entry into their ports of vessels flying the illegal flag of the Malvinas Islands.

Furthermore, within the framework of the international agreements in force, they undertake to inform the Argentine Government about any vessels or marine structures travelling to the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia Islands and South Sandwich Islands with cargo to be used for illegal hydrocarbon and/or mining activities on the Argentine continental shelf, thereby preventing or disrupting such activities.

Accordingly, they reaffirm the tenor of previous declarations and reiterate their strong support for the legitimate rights of the Argentine Republic in the sovereignty dispute with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland over the question of the Malvinas Islands. They also recall that the region has an abiding interest in the resumption of negotiations between the Governments of the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in order to find, as soon as possible, a peaceful and definitive solution to the sovereignty dispute over the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia Islands and South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas, in accordance with the relevant resolutions and declarations of the United Nations and the Organization of American States.

Georgetown, 26 November 2010